

From: **Program Coordinator** <ProgramCoordinator@columbusfumc.com>
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First UMC / Email Blast

This Weekend in Worship – *We are called to Prepare the Way for Jesus in this season. Just like the time we spend to prepare our homes, we need to prepare our hearts!*

Sat @ 6 PM (OC) and Sun @ 8 AM & 10:30 AM (Church) – As we continue in the Advent season, “**Prepare the Way**” with a focus on *Joy* and what it means to *Do* from Zephaniah 3:14-20 and Luke 3:7-18.

Ignite on Sun @ 6 PM (OC) – This weekend join @ Ignite reflect on how we can get pulled away from what the true meaning of Christmas through “**Advent Conspiracy.**” This week’s *Give More* is focused on John 1:1-14, Psalm 41:1-3 and Proverb 11:24-25. **Remember to stay for a light meal & fellowship in the evening.**

Annual Youth Christmas Bake Sale / Sponsored by the youth, will be held in the Chapel Parlor beginning at **7:30 AM** on this **Sunday, Dec. 16**. Proceeds will provide gifts to eight children in the Columbus area through the Holiday Spirit Co-op. **NOTE: Families of children & youth, we NEED your baked sale items! Please get baked sale items to the Chapel Parlor by 7:30 AM!!!**

Sunday School Christmas Program / This year’s Sunday School Christmas Program will be held on **Sunday, December 16** at the **10:30 AM** service. MYTT will practice on **Wednesday evening during the meal time**. Parents, please plan to have your students in Sunday School classes to participate this year! **NOTE: all Sunday School students & MYTT members are invited to rehearsal on Sun. Dec. 16 at 9 AM in the Sanctuary.**

Fair Trade Items For Sale – Christmas Edition / This weekend (back by popular demand), there will be Fair Trade items for sale – just in time for the holidays! Check out the Chapel Parlor to find that special unique gift!

PBJ4JC / **Peanut Butter and Jelly for Jesus Christ Holiday Giving Drive for the Food Pantry and Backpack Program.** As a way to honor Baby Jesus, the Lamb of God, we are extending an invitation to our Sunday School children, youth, and entire congregation to help feed the hungry children in our community by bringing offerings of Peanut Butter and Jelly as gifts to Baby Jesus during this Holiday Season. These gifts will be shared with the Backpack Program and Food Pantry. (There will be gift boxes or bags in Sunday School rooms or near the Sanctuary) **FYI: The Backpack program requires plastic jars.** *Jesus commanded us to feed his lambs; and He also informed us that whenever we give to those in need, we have given to Him.*

Give the Gift of Life / First UMC Blood Drive / On **Monday, December 17,** from **12 to 6 PM,** First UMC will be hosting their Blood Drive at our Outreach Center, 3602 16th Street. *This Christmas season, thank you for giving the gift of LIFE.*

Prayer & Healing Service / Care Team “Handling the Holidays”

Open House / The monthly **Prayer & Healing Service** is returning to the **Third Monday at 6:30 PM at our Outreach Center** in the Meditation Room. The next service will be held on December 17. *All are invited & welcome to come, to pray & to receive an optional anointing of oil.* **Then stay for the Care Team’s “Handling the Holidays” Open House from 7 to 8:30 PM** for some pampering, holiday tips for handling difficult situations & some goodies too!

Advent Bible Studies / As the **Advent Season** is upon us, **Prepare the Way** by participating in one of our many studies!

- **Sundays,** 9 to 10 AM – Sunday School Classes
- **Sundays,** 4 to 5:30 PM @ OC – starting on 12/2 – *Characters of Christmas*
- **Mondays,** 12 to 1 PM @ OC – Bible & Bag – Studying Christmas story in Matthew & Luke
- **Tuesdays,** 9:30 AM @ Church – Tues Morning Bible Study (studying Esther, started on 11/27)
- **Tuesdays,** 11:30 to 1 PM @ El Tapatio - Taco Tuesday (Advent reflections)
- **Wednesdays,** 7:15 to 8:15 PM @ OC – Kidz Korner, Youth Groups

- **Thursdays, 8 to 9 PM @ OC (and/or off-site location) – Men’s Bible Study**

Christmas Eve Services / Join us for our Special Christmas Eve Services held on **Monday, December 24** at the Church:

❖ **5 PM, Children & Family Service** – featuring a special Children’s Time & Treats & special music (with child-friendly “candles”)

❖ **7 PM, Carols & Candles Service** – featuring special music with lessons & carols as well as candle lighting

❖ **11 PM, Carols, Candles & Communion** – featuring special music selections, message, communion & candle lighting

CALENDAR: <https://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/74025457/month/2018-12-01>

Mark Your Calendars:

December 16 –*Fair Trade Items – Christmas Edition / Youth Bake Sale / Sunday School Christmas Program / Connections @ Marilyn Zehring’s House*

December 17 – *First UMC Blood Drive / Prayer & Healing Service / Care Team “Handling the Holidays” Open House*

December 19 – *UMW Christmas Gatherings: Morning Circle @ 9:30 AM (Jackie Pope’s House); Eve Circle @ 11:30 AM (Duster’s); Friendship Circle @ 5:30 PM (The Bistro @ Ramada Inn)*

December 23 – *Columbus Christmas Tuba Concert @ 4 PM in the Sanctuary / ‘Christmas Eve’ Eve Celebration at Ignite Service*

December 24 – Christmas Eve Worship Services at Church: 5 PM, 7 PM & 11 PM

January 3 – *NE Wesleyan Choir performance @ 7 PM in the Sanctuary*

January 6 – *Epiphany // Holy Communion / Borgman's Experiences from Holy Land / First Sunday Potluck / General Conference Delegate Lisa Maupin @ Potluck!*

Community Connection! – *Please check-out the Community Bulletin Board located outside of the Church Office! Click on the hyperlinks to go to learn more about the events listed below.*

- [Gallery Gift Gala](#) – Nov. 26 – Jan. 4

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